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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUENOS 01612 080138Z

12
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /055 W
---------- 081210
R 072230Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0229

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, AR
SUBJECT: ELECTIONS IN MISIONES PROVINCE

REF: BA 1257

1. THE ELECTIONS IN MISIONES PROVINCE ARE BEING CONSIDERED AS AN INDICATOR OF THE POPULARITY OF MRS. PERON'S GOVERNMENT AND OF THE COHESIVENESS OF THE FREJULI BLOC. AN ELECTORAL VICTORY FOR THE ORTHODOX PERONISTS IS STILL LIKELY AT THIS POINT. IF THEIR MARGIN OF VICTORY IS SMALL, HOWEVER, OR IF THEY WERE TO LOSE, IT WOULD HAVE REPERCUSSIONS BEYOND THE PROVINCE. THOSE WHO HAVE PUSHED FOR THE ELECTIONS, SUCH AS INTERIOR MINISTER ROCAMORA, WOULD BE SERIOUSLY DAMAGED POLITICALLY. ANY FUTURE ELECTIONS IN THE OTHER INTERVENED PROVINCES WOULD BE PLACED IN DOUBT.

2. DIFFICULTIES HAVE ALREADY BEEN EVIDENCED WITHIN THE RANKS OF THE FREJULI, AS THE MID BLOC IN THE PROVINCE IS THREATENING TO BREAK ITS PACT WITH THE PERONISTS AND RUN ITS OWN SLATE OF CANDIDATES FOR GOVERNOR, VICE GOVERNOR AND PROVINCIAL DEPUTIES. THE MID GROUP IS A FACTION WHICH DOES NOT RESPECT THE NATIONAL MID LEADERSHIP OF FRONDIZI, BUT INSTEAD RECOGNIZES CARLOS BEGNIS, THE GOVERNOR OF SANTA FE PROVINCE. SINCE ROCAMORA IS ONE OF THE MAIN OPPONENTS OF THE INTERVENTION OF SANTA FE PROVINCE WHICH IS BEING DEMANDED BY THE LABOR WING OF THE PERONIST PARTY, THIS MOVE ON THE PART OF BEGNIS'
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PAGE 02 BUENOS 01612 080138Z

FOLLOWERS MAY FURTHER UNDERMINE THE POSITION OF THE MINISTER

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OF INTERIOR.

3. ANOTHER ASPECT OF THE ELECTIONS IS THE PRESENTATION OF A SLATE OF CANDIDATES BY DISAFFECTED LEFTIST PERONISTS. PREVENTED FROM USING THE NAME PARTIDO DESCAMISADO, THEY WILL NOW RUN AS THE PARTIDO AUTHENTICO. WHILE LEFTIST PERONISTS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DRAW LARGE CROWDS FOR DEMONSTRATIONS, THEIR VOTE-GETTING ABILITY IS AN UNKNOWN FACTOR. GIVEN THE CLOSE ASSOCIATION OF THIS FACTION OF PERONISM WITH THE MONTONEROS, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME WOULD LIKE TO BAIT THE GOVERNMENT INTO REACTING AGAINST THEM AND PROSCRIBING THEM FROM THE ELECTIONS. THE GOA, WHILE IT HAS

CHALLENGED THE RIGHT OF LEFTIST PERONISTS TO USE CERTAIN NAMES AND SYMBOLS, HAS NOT YET MADE AN OUTRIGHT EFFORT TO PREVENT THEM FROM PARTICIPATING.
HILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 07 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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